

Message Text

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ORM-01 SCSE-00 SCA-01 OES-05 AGR-10 COME-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

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RELIEF ASSISTANCE-INDOCHINA

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS (ICRC/LICROSS)

PRESS RELEASE APRIL 10 COVERING IRC'S RELIEF ASSISTANCE

ACTIVITIES INDOCHINA:

QUOTE: ON 10 APRIL, THE FUNDS PROMISED BY THE GOVERNMENTS AND NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETIES OF TWENTY COUNTRIES AMOUNTED TO 22.5 MILLION SWISS FRANCS. THE JOINT APPEALS SENT OUT BY THE ICRC AND THE LEAGUE ON 25 MARCH AND 3 APRIL ASKED FOR \$35 MILLION TO COVER A THREE MONTH PROGRAM OF INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS RELIEF.

THE 22.5 MILLION SWISS FRANCS WAS PROMISED BY THE GOVERNMENTS AND RED CROSS SOCIETIES OF AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FINLAND, FRANCE, JAPAN, LIECHTENSTEIN, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PHILIPPINES, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, THAILAND, UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND SO FAR PROMISED BY THE NATIONAL

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RED CROSS SOCIETIES COMPRISE

- 125 TONS OF POWDERED MILK AND BABY FOOD,
- 50 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS,
- THOUSANDS OF BLANKETS AND TENTS,
- LARGE QUANTITIES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

THESE DONATIONS WILL HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE RED CROSS SOCIETIES OF AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, DENMARK, FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND SWEDEN. DONATIONS HAVE ALSO BEEN PROMISED BY THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES OF ALGERIA AND FINLAND.

TWELVE TONS OF FOODSTUFFS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED IN GENEVA AND LOADED ABOARD AN AIRCRAFT FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF GERMANY FOR HANOI. IT IS INTENDED FOR THE INHABITANTS OF SOUTH VIETNAM UNDER PRG CONTROL.

A RELIEF SPECIALIST FROM GENEVA IS MAKING A SURVEY OF NEEDS IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

AN ICRC CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY SPECIALIST HAS ALSO BEEN SENT TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

TWO DOCTORS FROM THE ICRC DELEGATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARE TAKING PART IN THE LOCAL RED CROSS SOCIETY'S RELIEF WORK FOR DISPLACED PERSONS.

FROM GENEVA, AND THROUGH ITS DELEGATES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES OF ASIA, THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS INDOCHINA BUREAU IS STEPPING UP ITS NEGOTIATIONS IN THE NEAREST COUNTRIES TO VIETNAM FOR THE PURCHASE OF SUPPLIES. THE AIM IS MAINLY TO RESPOND TO THE PRG'S APPEAL FOR FIVE MILLION SWISS FRANCS WORTH OF FOOD.

NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING CONDUCTED FOR THE TIME CHARTER OF AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS.

TO START THIS RELIEF ACTION THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS GAVE THE RED CROSS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE PRG RED CROSS ONE MILLION FRANCS EACH. BOTH THESE DONATIONS WERE FOR LOCAL PURCHASES OF EMERGENCY RELIEF. END QUOTE.

ABRAMS

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